

### **Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace the originally filed claims in the application.

#### **Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1 – 10 (cancelled).

Claims 11 – 20 (cancelled).

Claim 21 (new):       An apparatus which may be used as a connecting structure for connecting a fluid circuit section to a chamber, said apparatus comprising:

- a)     a tubular metal element, wherein:
  - 1)     said tubular metal element comprises:
    - i)     a first tubular element end; and
    - ii)    a second tubular element end;
  - 2)     said first tubular element end is connected to the orifice of a chamber; and
  - 3)     said chamber comprises:
    - i)     at least one side made of a thin metal sheet; and
    - ii)    said orifice; and
- b)     a connecting member, wherein:
  - 1)     said connecting member comprises a duct; and
  - 2)     said second tubular element end interfaces with, and is sealed to, said duct.

Claim 22 (new):       The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the thickness of said metal sheet is less than or equal to about 0.4 mm.

Claim 23 (new):       The apparatus of claim 21, wherein both said metal sheet and said tubular element are made of substantially the same grade of metal.

Claim 24 (new):       The apparatus of claim 23, wherein both said metal sheet and said tubular element are made of stainless steel.

Claim 25 (new):       The apparatus of claim 21, wherein said connecting member further comprises an internal chamber suitable for connection to a fluid circuit section.

Claim 26 (new): The apparatus of claim 25, wherein said connecting member is made of plastic.

Claim 27 (new): The apparatus of claim 25, wherein:

- a) said connecting member further comprises a protruding portion; and
- b) said protruding portion is secured to said metal sheet.

Claim 28 (new): The apparatus of claim 25, wherein said internal chamber has a main direction which is substantially parallel to said metal sheet.

Claim 29 (new): The apparatus of claim 21, wherein:

- a) said metal sheet is stamped to form a series of parallel ducts;
- b) said metal sheet is sealed to a membrane in order to form a fuel cell; and
- c) said orifice is located near the end of at least one said parallel duct.

Claim 30 (new): An apparatus which may be used as a fuel cell, said apparatus comprising a connecting structure for connecting a fluid circuit section to a chamber, said structure comprising:

- a) a tubular metal element, wherein:
  - 1) said tubular metal element comprises:
    - i) a first tubular element end; and
    - ii) a second tubular element end;
  - 2) said first tubular element end is connected to the orifice of a chamber; and
  - 3) said chamber comprises:
    - i) at least one side made of a thin metal sheet; and
    - ii) said orifice; and
- b) a connecting member, wherein:
  - 1) said connecting member comprises a duct; and
  - 2) said second tubular element end interfaces with, and is sealed to, said duct.

Claim 31 (new): The apparatus of claim 30, wherein the thickness of said metal sheet is less than or equal to about 0.4 mm.

Claim 32 (new): The apparatus of claim 30, wherein both said metal sheet and said tubular element are made of substantially the same grade of metal.

Claim 33 (new):        The apparatus of claim 30, wherein said connecting member further comprises an internal chamber suitable for connection to a fluid circuit section.

Claim 34 (new):        The apparatus of claim 33, wherein:

- a)        said connecting member further comprises a protruding portion; and
- b)        said protruding portion is secured to said metal sheet.

Claim 35 (new):        The apparatus of claim 30, wherein:

- a)        said metal sheet is stamped to form a series of parallel ducts;
- b)        said metal sheet is sealed to a membrane in order to form a fuel cell; and
- c)        said orifice is located near the end of at least one said parallel duct.